

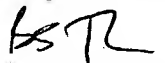
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Bolduc, et al.  
Serial No. : Art Unit :  
Filed : Examiner :  
Title : Methods and Devices for Maintaining a Cardiopulmonary Bypass and  
Arresting a Patient's Heart

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July 29, 2003  
(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the continuation application filed on this date, please amend the  
application as follows prior to examination:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3  
of this document.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the first paragraph of page 1 of the specification as follows:

#### CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/196,847, filed July 17, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/855,070, filed May 15, 2001, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,461,365, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/420,609, filed October 18, 1999, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,254,615, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/598,513, filed on February 8, 1996, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,976,159, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/394,333, filed February 24, 1995, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,695,504, the complete disclosure of all of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

1-57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A method of forming an anastomosis by placing a lumen of a graft vessel in fluid communication with a lumen of a target vessel through an opening in a wall of the target vessel, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of clips, the clips being made of superelastic material, each of the plurality of clips each having a first end and a second end, a first position, where the first end and second end are spaced apart to receive therebetween a portion of the graft vessel and a portion of a target vessel tissue proximate the opening in the wall of the target vessel, and a second position, where the portion of the graft vessel and the portion of the target vessel are approximated;

passing each of the plurality of clips through the graft vessel and the target vessel; and

permitting each of the plurality of clips to assume the second position to approximate the graft vessel and the target vessel.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the passing step comprises passing each of the plurality of clips through an outer wall of the graft vessel while in the first position.

60. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the passing step comprises passing each of the plurality of clips through the opening in the target vessel and through an inner wall of the target vessel while in the first position.

61. (New) The method of claim 58, comprising the step of positioning one end of each clip through the graft vessel at radially spaced locations about the graft vessel.

62. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein each clip of the plurality of clips is separately passed through the graft vessel.

63. (New) The method of claim 58, comprising compressing the graft vessel and the target vessel together when at least one of the plurality of clips is in the second position.